IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: William Harrison Allen Confirmation No.: 9187

Appln. No.: 10/789,654 Group Art Unit: 3714

Filed: February 27, 2004 Examiner: Kang Hu

Title: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR Atty. Docket No.: 141647.00001

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AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

In response to the Office Action of April 16, 2007, please amend the application as follows:

Status begins on page 2.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 3.

Amendments to the Abstract begin on page 10.

Remarks begin on page 11.

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STATUS

The above-captioned patent application is pending.

Claims 1-20 are pending in the application.

Claims 11, 12, and 14-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112 as failing to comply with the written description requirement.

Claims 1-7, 13, 14 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Soto et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,954,199) in view of Sameth et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,882,202), and further in view of Manger (U.S. Patent No. 4,427,390).

Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Soto et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,954,199) in view of Sameth et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,882,202), and further in view of Manger (U.S. Patent No. 4,427,390), and further in view of Bell (U.S. Patent No. 5,306,006).

Claims 10 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Soto et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,954,199) in view of Sameth et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,882,202), in further in view of Manger (U.S. Patent No. 4,427,390), and further in view of Bell (U.S. Patent No. 5,306,006), and further in view of Stewart et al. (U.S. Patent No. 3,721,021).

Claim 8 is allowed.